Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention relates to an image management system, image management terminal, image management server, image management method and program for the same for management of ~~electronized~~ digitized image data.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning on page 1, line 11 with the following amended paragraphs:

~~With the spread of computers, documents~~ Documents used in [[the]] offices have been ~~electronized~~ digitized and managed by computers. That is, documents are stored and managed as ~~electronized~~ digitized document data. Since such stored document data eliminate the need to use papers [[paper]], it can be said that the system saves costs and is environment-friendly. Furthermore, since documents are stored as document data, [[the]] a system has an advantage over the conventional paper-based document management in that it is possible to retrieve an object document by using a key word, for example, and to instantaneously pick out the needed document out of a vast amount of documents.

In recent years, furthermore, in addition to the document data, image data have been managed in the same way as the document data, that is, image data read through an input device such as a scanner are stored as digitized image data and managed ~~electronized~~. The image data is usually larger than the document data in file size, yet the ~~electronized~~ digitized image data management has been spreading. One of the reasons for the spread of the ~~electronized~~ digitized

image data management is the fact that data storage units have greatly increased in memory capacity in recent years.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

But the standalone image management system and the server-client image management system are so constructed (provided) ~~offered~~ that they are units completely independent of each other. Therefore, when the standalone image management system is replaced with the server-client image management system, image data and information related to each image data have to be registered with the latter system all over again. That is, unlike the document data, the image data is not provided with information necessary for retrieval of the managed image data. Therefore, image data have to be managed in a special way or by adding to the image data key word information (text information) indicating a key word related to the image data, for example, so that the image data can be retrieved.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

It is also noted that the standalone image management system and the server-client image management system are ~~offered~~ provided as different systems. For this reason, the users have to learn the way of operating the server-client image management system, and thus a vast amount of labor is needed in a system switchover.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning from page 3, line 27 to page 5, line 23 with the following amended paragraphs:

That is, the present invention is based on an image management system that is formed of image management terminals and an image management server in which ~~electronized~~ image data are managed using management information to manage the image data. The image management terminals are provided with switchover control means for sending the image data and the management information stored in the image management terminals to the image management server according to instructions from a user and sharing attribute information indicating whether the image data corresponding to the management information provided in advance in the management information should be sent to the image management server. The image management server are provided with switchover image registration means for registering with specific storage the image data and the management information acquired from the image management terminals. ~~The image management terminal of the image management system is provided with image data managed within the image management terminal on instructions from the user and a switchover control means for sending to the image management server management information corresponding to the image data. The image management server is provided with a switchover image registration means that registers with a storage means image data and management information acquired from the image management terminal.~~

According to the above arrangement, it is possible ~~That arrangement in which there are provided a switchover control means and a switchover image registration means so as~~ to eliminate the need to register image data again, thus substantially [[saves]] saving labor needed in transferring image data and management information from the image management terminal to the image management server, that is, labor needed in a switchover from a standalone image management

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system to a server-client image management system. It is also possible to eliminate need for a user to sort out image data, thus further facilitating the transfer of image data and saving user' labor.

~~Furthermore, the system may be so arranged that management information stored in the image management terminal is provided with sharing attribute information and that the switchover control means sends the image data and management information on the basis of the sharing attribute information.~~

~~This arrangement eliminates the need for the user to sort out image data, thus further facilitating the transfer of image data and saving the user much labor.~~

The system also may be provided with a storage place judging unit [[means]] to judge ~~in which~~ whether an image data selected by the user is stored[[,]] in the image management server or stored in the image management terminal so that a control instruction for the selected image data is forwarded or executed on the basis of the judgment ~~judgement~~ by the storage place judging unit [[means]].

Under that arrangement, there is no need for the user to learn new operating procedures when a switchover is made from the standalone image management system to the server-client image management system, because the user can operate from the same interface.

~~The system also may be arranged this way.~~ According to another aspect of the invention, when [[When]] image data or management information stored in the image management server is given additional information or renewed, a renewal information preparation means prepares renewal information showing the details of the renewal, and a mail sending means sends the renewal information by electronic mail to specific users.

Under that arrangement, the users other than ~~the user~~ the one who changed image data or management information can immediately [[get]] obtain renewal information, too.

It is noted that the image management terminal and the image management server may be provided ~~offered~~ as a computer while the respective means provided in the image management terminal and the image management server, that is, the switchover control means, switchover image registration means, storage place judging means, renewal information preparation means, mail sending means etc. may be provided ~~offered~~ as programs which are read and executed by CPU.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

Next, a server image OCR table 100f and a terminal image OCR table 200f store image ID's, page numbers, text information and layout information with those kinds of information related to each other. The layout information is information obtained by performing layout recognition on image data, indicating the kinds, positions etc. of the unit information with photos, letters and characters, ruled lines etc. contained in the image data as unit information. The layout information is utilized in converting the image data into an electronic document. The text information is obtained by performing character recognition (OCR) on the area judged as character area by the layout recognition. With those kinds of information related to or associated with image data, it is possible to retrieve image data by full-text retrieval or to ~~electronize~~ digitize image data. The text information and layout information are given as pointer for the storage area of the information.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

First, the user, who wants to use various functions to perform, that is, such procedures as registration and renewal ~~offered~~ provided by the buttons, selects image data using the input unit 32,

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the image data displayed by the display unit 31. Then, the user presses a proper button among operating instruction buttons 310 to 314 to input an instruction for processing the selected image data, that is, an operating instruction. The operating instruction may be directed to the image data and management information stored in the terminal data storage means 21.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Such are general functions ~~offered~~ provided by the standalone image management system. There are various other functions, but the purpose of the present invention is not to explain all the functions of the image management system and other functions will not be explained.